

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application as of the filing of the RCE:

39. (currently pending) The method of impacting a target with a projectile, said projectile comprising an absorption zone, a hull, a mass of core particles within said hull and an actuator, said actuator being releasably fixed to an impact end of said hull and said absorption zone being upstream of said core particles, comprising the steps of:
- a. impacting said target with said hull containing said actuator and said mass of core particles,
 - b. releasing said actuator and said mass of core particles from said hull during a first impact, said actuator maintaining said mass of core particles as a lethal unitary mass, on a substantially straight trajectory behind said actuator, for a first predetermined distance after said first impact,
 - c. radially dispersing said lethal unitary mass over a second predetermined distance to produce a mass of non-lethal individual particles.
40. (currently pending) The method of claim 39, wherein said hull peels back away from said mass of core particles at a rate substantially equal to that of the velocity of the projectile thereby maintaining substantially all of said lethal unitary mass in a confined mass behind said actuator and providing a controlled, first predetermined distance of lethality beyond said first impact.
41. (currently pending) The method of claim 39, wherein a secondary impact of said lethal unitary mass with a target is preceded by a shock wave.
42. (currently pending) The method of claim 39, further comprising the step of maintaining said lethal unitary mass, for said first predetermined distance, beyond said first impact with a lethal impact substantially equal to that of a unitary projectile.

43. (currently pending) The method of claim 39, wherein said first predetermined distance is up to about six feet beyond said first impact.
44. (currently pending) The method of claim 39, wherein said first predetermined distance is up to about three feet beyond said first impact.
45. (currently pending) A method of controlling the release of energy from a fired projectile, comprising the steps of:
- a- releasing from said projectile, during an initial impact, an actuator leading a unified, cohesive structure of individual particles,
 - b- maintaining said individual particles in said unified, cohesive structure behind said actuator for a first predetermined distance,
 - c- expanding said unified, cohesive structure into a increasingly less unified structure over a second predetermined distance,
 - d- radially dispersing said structure, after said second predetermined distance, into discrete non-lethal particles.
- 46- (currently pending) The method of claim 45 further comprising the step of said unified, cohesive structure functioning as a slug in step (b); acting like a slug of substantially increased diameter in step (c); and dispersing into non-lethal discrete particles in step (d).
- 47- (currently pending) The method of claim 45, further comprising the step of step (c) occurring at a distance between about three feet and about six feet from said initial impact.
48. (currently pending) The method of claim 45 further comprising the steps of:
- a- confining said particles in a hull,

b- peeling back and away said hull from said particles, during said first impact, at a predetermined peel back rate,

wherein said predetermined peel back rate produces a controlled rate of release of said particles immediately subsequent to said initial impact.

49. (currently pending) The method of claim 48 wherein said predetermined peel back rate is substantially equal to the velocity of said projectile.

50. (currently pending) The method of claim 48, wherein said hull is configured to peel back and release said unified, cohesive structure of individual particles on the order of about one ten thousandth of a second.

51. (currently pending) The method of impacting a target with a projectile having a plurality of small particles encased in a hull, comprising the steps of:

- a) maintaining said plurality of small particles within said hull until initial impact,
- b) maintaining said plurality of small particles in the form of a cohesive lethal mass of particles for a distance of between at least about two feet to about ten feet beyond the point of said initial impact,
- c) dispersing said cohesive lethal mass of particles after said distance into individual non-lethal, radially dispersing particles.

52. (currently pending) The method of claim 51, further comprising the step of initially maintaining said plurality of small particles in the form of a cohesive lethal mass to provide said plurality of small particles with a lethal impact effect substantially equivalent to that of a unitary projectile.

53. (currently pending) The method of claim 51, further comprising the step of said particles dispersing and acting as discrete individual non-lethal particles after traveling no greater than about ten feet beyond said point of initial impact.

54. (currently pending) The method of claim 51, further comprising the step of said particles dispersing and acting as discrete individual non-lethal particles after traveling about six feet beyond said point of initial impact.

55. (withdrawn)

56. (currently pending) The method of claim 51, further comprising the step of maintaining said small particles in said cohesive mass behind an actuator, said actuator having a periphery, an exterior side and an interior side and being releasably fixed to an impact end of said hull, said initial impact peeling back said impact end of said hull and releasing said actuator:

57. (currently pending) The method of claim 56, wherein said actuator periphery has a tapered conical side, said tapered conical side having its greatest radial dimension at said exterior side.

58. (currently pending) The method of claim 56, wherein actuator has a stem member, said stem member being centrally positioned and extending from said interior side of said actuator into said cohesive mass.

59. (currently pending) The method of claim 57, further comprising the step of affixing said actuator to said hull impact end with a circular ring on said interior side of said tapered conical side of said actuator.

60. (currently pending) The method of impacting a target located beyond a first impact zone with a projectile, said projectile comprising an absorption zone, a hull, a mass of core particles

within said hull and a radial dispersion control member, said radial dispersion control member being releasably fixed to said hull at an impact end and said absorption zone being upstream of said core particles, comprising the steps of:

a- impacting a first impact zone with said projectile,

b- peeling said hull back upon itself during said impact, and releasing said radial dispersion control member and said mass of core particles, said radial dispersion control member and said mass of core particles generating a pressure wave in advance of said mass of core particles, said radial dispersion control member maintaining said core particles in a unified mass for a first predetermined controlled distance after penetration of said first impact zone.

c after said radial dispersion control member and said core particles travel said first predetermined controlled distance, dispersing said projectile core particles in a progressively expanding pattern such that said core particles no longer act as a unitary projectile and travel as substantially discrete individual particles,

wherein impact with a target within said first predetermined distance is equivalent to a lethal unitary projectile and impact beyond said first predetermined distance is a non lethal plurality of individual impacts.

61. (currently pending) The method of claim 60, wherein said core particles substantially start passing said radial dispersion control member after traveling at least about six feet from said first impact zone.

62. (currently pending) The method of claim 60, wherein said radial dispersion control member has a stem member, said stem member being surrounded and controlled by said mass of

projectile core particles, whereby said mass of projectile core particles are maintained in a substantially unified mass.

63. (currently pending) The method of claim 39 wherein said first predetermined distance is determined by said actuator configuration.

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